Illness delays espionage trial

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BALTIMORE (AP)—A former Central Intelligence Agency employe on trial here for allegedly trying to sell secret documents to the Soviet Union was hospitalized Wednesday after becoming ill in his jail cell.

Edwin G. Moore II, the defendant, was taken to Mercy Hospital about 1 a.m. after federal marshals received a call from guards at the City Jail, according to U.S. District Judge Frank S. Kaufman.

In recessing the trial until Monday, Kaufman described Moore as "temporarily ill," but said the exact cause of his ailment was unknown.

Doctors do not believe Moore, 56, suffered a heart attack although cardiologists have been assigned to examine him and report on his condition to the court, the judge added.

Officials at Mercy said Moore was taken to the intensive care unit after unspecified surgery. His condition was not known.

Later, Kaufman clamped a news blackout on Moore's hospitalization, saying all information about the defendant's condition would be released in open court, probably late in the day.

Moore, from Bethesda, Md., is charged with two counts of espionage and three counts of stealing classified CIA documents. He was originally charged with eight counts but three were dropped.

He was arrested last December after authorities found a parcel containing photocopies of a 1973 CIA directory and other classified documents at a Soviet residence in Washington.